

UNEXPECTED JUMP IN ASSESSMENTS MAY LET CITY HOLD LINE ON TAXES

Thugs Bore Through Roof, Loot Grocery Warehouse

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10 Per Cent Raise In Values Revealed

Hints that the city may be able to hold the line on taxes and not increase the rate as proposed by City Manager George Stevens' tentative budget were voiced this week when County Assessor John Quinn announced that the assessed valuation of real estate and improvements within the city were up nearly 10 per cent over last year in stead of an estimated eight per cent.

The announcement of the valuations showed that Torrance hit \$54,569,330 with the assessments on public utilities yet to come.

City Guess Is Low

City Manager Stevens' budget estimate had set the property tax estimates at \$59,113,033, including public utilities, basing his estimate on an eight per cent increase over last year. The figures released by Quinn showed the actual increase for Torrance was \$5,063,990. Utilities are expected to add at least another \$4,000,000 to the total. Final valuations will not be known until sometime in August, Stevens said. At that time, a final budget can be adopted by the city based on the actual tax receipts which can be expected by the city.

Given to Supervisors

The assessment rolls released to the press this week by Quinn have been handed to the County Board of Supervisors who sit as a board of equalization to study them. Even greater increases in the city's assessed valuation are expected for next year's budget. In the fire are proposed ex-

pansions of several industries here including National Supply and others. In addition, the construction of a new plant on Crenshaw Blvd. for the Dow Chemical Co. is expected to get under way some time this year, and plans for an industrial development in the 220th St. and Western Ave. area have been revealed.

Development Planned

Realtor John Kilroy, of 12901 S. Crenshaw Blvd., has indicated that he may build a development at the 220th St. site similar to one he constructed at Crenshaw Blvd. and El Segundo. Backing the project is a Beverly Hills syndicate.

Also slated for construction in the near future is a new 10-story structure for the Harvey Machine Co. at 190th St. and Western Ave. This will not add to the city's taxable assessment, however, it was pointed out yesterday by City Manager George Stevens. The Harvey building will be built for the government and will be government owned and not taxable.

Negotiations for several other industrial developments are under way by various firms and individuals, informed sources say. Completion of the improvements to the Torrance water system will aid in attracting industry, many officials feel. Work on the water system is slated to begin as soon as the bonds have been finally cleared.



(Herald Photo) EXTENDS WELCOME . . . Stan Roberts (left), new executive-secretary of the Torrance YMCA, was greeted by Dr. Rollin R. Smith, chairman of the "Y" board of managers, when he showed up at the YMCA building yesterday morning. He succeeds L. Milton Isbell who resigned recently to enter private business.

Police Pinch Second Game Cock Suspect

The second fighting game bird raiser of the week was nabbed by Chief of Police John Stroth at a North Torrance farm late Wednesday afternoon.

Arrested and released on \$300 bail was Mauro Dagdagan Apostol, 58, who gave his address as 182nd St. and Crenshaw Blvd. Chief Stroth said that 35 or 40 birds, all trimmed for fighting purposes, were found in his possession at a farm there. Two were taken for evidence, and the suspect was ordered to destroy the remainder.

City Judge Otto Willett imposed a fine of \$125 on bird raiser Joaquin A. Baligad, of 4360 W. 182nd St., who last week also was nabbed for violation of cruelty to animal statutes. Stroth said that the raising of fighting birds is considered illegal because the fowl are "trimmed" for fighting purposes. Portions of the birds' combs are removed to streamline them for action.

Apostol was ordered to appear in court Thursday afternoon.

Jury Trial for 'Peeping Tom' Suspect Slated

William H. Griffin, who last June 13 beat an indecent exposure rap when he was found not guilty by a jury in Judge Otto B. Willett's court, will appear in City Court Tuesday to face a "peeping Tom" charge. A complaint charging him with "peeping" through the window of a Torrance home has been filed and Griffin will appear before a jury Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Conviction for violation of the "peeping Tom" vagrancy law carries a maximum sentence of \$500 fine or six months in jail, or both. Griffin reportedly served a jail term late in 1950 for vagrancy.

Mrs. Eve Murphy signed the complaint against Griffin, police report. Attorney Albert Isen again will represent the suspect in court.

Scores Escape Injury As Bus, Auto Smash Up

A Gardena City Lines bus loaded with passengers collided with an auto on Western Ave. near 220th St. late Wednesday afternoon, sending one man to a private physician for medical treatment.

Injured was James E. Holloway, 28, of 1413 W. 220th St., who was hurled from his car after the initial crash.

Police said Holloway's driverless car roared across Western Ave. after the crash, "zoomed into an open field, turned back towards Western Ave. and smashed into a large tree.

Some 20 persons on the bus were shaken but none reported they needed medical attention. Driver of the bus was John F. Gulligan, 26, of Inglewood.

Supervisors Okay Hospital Improvements

Improvements totaling some \$95,000 are planned for the current fiscal year at Harbor General Hospital, county officials announced yesterday.

Biggest single item in the \$95,779 fund allotted to the hospital is \$15,943 for purchase and installation of surgical equipment at the ear, nose and throat clinic. Also allocated is \$3700 for improvements to the clinic building.

Another large chunk of the budget will go for fire resistant plastering of the hospital boiler room, a badly needed safety factor as the room is located in the center of the hospital, it was pointed out. Amount was \$15,750.

Other expenditures include funds for more parking space, medical staff offices, surgery service addition, x-ray room improvements and other smaller projects.



(Herald photo by Mill Brown) ROPE-CLIMBING THUGS . . . Det. Ernie Ashton inspects a rope left by burglars who cut a hole through the roof of a grocery warehouse and made off with \$1000 worth of cigarettes and cigars Thursday morning. The rope is tied around the drain pipe.

Cigarettes, Cigars Removed In Heist

Burglars who had an eye for quality as well as quantity, drilled through the roof of a grocery warehouse and left with \$1000 worth of smokes early Thursday morning.

Taken from a Smart and Final storage building at 1740 W. Carson St., were 517 cartons of top-grade cigars. Many boxes of less expensive brands of cigars were left behind, police said.

Detectives Capt. Ernie Ashton and Sgt. Percy Bennett, are pondering the facts that the heist might have been an inside job. "Everything was too well

planned," Ashton said. "Those boys knew what they wanted and where to find it."

Investigators have theorized that the looters pulled their auto in front of the one-story building, climbed onto the car roof, and then jumped to the wooden covering on the building.

Eighteen holes were bored in a section of the rooftop, and an entire piece of roofing removed by the burglars. They then leaped down onto stacks of canned goods and spotted the cigars.

To escape, a knotted section of manila rope was tied around a rooftop drain pipe and the looters climbed down like a boy from a back yard tree house. Some \$50,000 worth of other merchandise was untouched.

Although the burglars were choosy about the brands of cigars they swiped, the cigarette supply was cleaned out, Ashton reported.

Lloyd Gouborne, 36, of 1656 W. 204th St., was sentenced to 45 days in the county jail last week for issuing two checks without sufficient funds in the bank. Superior Judge Fred Miller also ordered Gouborne placed on probation for three years.

Gouborne admitted passing two checks, for \$76.42 each, last May, 1950, one at the Lemita Farmer's Exchange market, the other at a Wilmington store.

Seasonal Spurt In Jobseekers Appears at End

A slight decline in the seasonal spurt of jobseekers signing up with the Torrance office of the California Employment Service was noted this week in a report issued by Mrs. Winona Ellis, manager of the local branch.

Total Torrance residents with applications for jobs on file here stood at 508 yesterday, Mrs. Ellis reported. This represents a drop of 11 from the total one month ago.

"Early summer always brings a rush of jobseekers from students just out of school and teachers looking for summer employment," Mrs. Ellis said. Of those registered here, 253 are women and 255 are men. Mrs. Ellis reported. Forty-three per cent of the men seeking work are veterans.

Her complete report follows:

	May	June	July
Professional	31	18	18
Clerical	77	84	104
Sales	28	21	29
Service	59	74	57
Agricultural	29	15	26
Skilled	78	91	75
Semi-skilled	72	85	64
Labor	102	131	143
Totals	476	519	508

Harbor Hospital Honors Veteran Local Employee

Quarter-century of service to Harbor General Hospital won Arthur Boyce, Jr., 1124 W. Carson St., a commendatory pin from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Tuesday. Pins were distributed to 32 county employees from 18 departments who had contributed service during the last 25 years.

USC Dean to Speak At Annual Y Dinner

Annual YMCA dinner meeting, to be held at the Civic Auditorium Tuesday at 7 p.m., will feature Dr. Bernard L. Hyink, dean of students and professor of political science at the University of Southern California, as guest speaker.

Dr. Hyink has been director of public relations and assistant to the president at the University of Redlands; an educational counselor of the National Institute of Public Affairs, Washington, D. C.; a lecturer in both the Army Air Forces and the Navy Orientation program; and an assistant civil service examiner at the nation's capital.

Is Phi Beta Kappa

The political science professor was Commissioner of City Streets at Redlands and served as president of that city's Rotary Club. He also is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the American Political Science association, and numerous honorary and scholastic organizations.

Newly-selected YMCA executive secretary, Stanley Roberts, will arrive in Torrance in time to attend Tuesday's meeting. Presiding officer will be Dr. Rollin Smith, newly-elected chairman of the YMCA board of managers. Sam Levy, member of the Board of Managers, will act as toastmaster.

Reports Due

Building development program and finance reports will be given.

Chairman of the dinner arrangements committee is Warren W. Hamilton, who is being

Mobile X-Ray Units to Visit Area July 28

Plans have been completed for the five-day visit of the mobile chest x-ray unit of the County Health Department in this area starting July 28, according to Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, County Health Officer.

Chest x-rays are available to all residents over 15 years of age, but minors must have the written consent of their parents to receive this service. It is suggested that housewives obtain their x-rays during the day in order that the late afternoon hours can be held for those who are unable to attend earlier.

There is no charge for the x-ray as it is a tax-supported program of the County Health Department.

Locations where the Mobile unit will be stationed are as follows: July 28, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at New Hampshire Ave. and Gardena Blvd., Gardena; July 29, 2 to 7 p.m., in the Triangle parking lot back of the Owl Drug Store, Redondo Beach; July 30, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Lucky Market Parking lot, 2221 Redondo Beach Blvd., North Redondo; July 31, 2 to 7 p.m., Community Center, 14701 Buvi St., Lawndale; and August 1, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Crenshaw Blvd. and 174th St., North Torrance.



DR. BERNARD L. HYINK

... To Speak at "Y" Dinner

assisted by the Reverend Cecil England and A. C. Turner.

Turkey dinners will be served by the Christian Women's Fellowship of the local First Christian Church. Dinner tickets may be secured for \$1.50 per plate from any YMCA board member or at the YMCA building. Reservations may be made by calling Torrance 1563.